

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

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Public Safety Committee

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Anti-Graffiti Policy Committee

Finance & Personnel Committee

Steering & Rules Committee



ROBERT G. DONOVAN
Alderman, 8th District

May 18, 2009

Tom Barrett, Mayor
City Hall, Room 201
200 E. Wells St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Mayor Barrett,

I can't tell you how pleased I am that the State of Wisconsin has finally stepped up to the plate to save me from myself. And with all of the covert meetings on the smoking ban – behind closed doors and out of public view during the run-up to the legislature's votes – the secrecy would surely make Elliot Ness and his band of Untouchables proud.

But what I am most proud of are your bold comments on the news the other night – that if the state did not act on the smoking ban, you personally would have led the charge for a local ban in Milwaukee. Good for you Tom – you fooled them again. Apparently I'm the only person who remembers you were in the Witness Protection Program (you were nowhere to be found!) when two years ago 300 people showed up to City Hall to protest a proposed local smoking ban.

On the subject of deception, I can't emphasize enough the importance of continuing to fool the general public in an effort to advance our cause.

For example, given the incredible fiscal challenges facing Milwaukee and the State of Wisconsin, it remains absolutely critical that we as elected officials continue to address issues such as smoking bans and seat belt laws so as to appear like we are actually doing something.

Also, it is critically important that we continue to ensure our committee meetings remain boring, uninviting and most inconvenient for most citizens to attend.

Your continued emphasis on the fact that you are a nice guy and that you "feel people's pain" is most definitely paying off.

